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February 8, 2007

### **By Overnight Delivery**

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Brian C. McNeil

**Executive Secretary** 

Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 W. Washington Street

Phoenix, AX 85007-2927

T-02871A-07-0094

Application of Global Tel\*Link Corporation for Approval of Issuance of Re:

**Debt and Related Financing Transactions** 

Dear Mr. McNeil:

On behalf of Global Tel\*Link Corporation, enclosed for filing are an original and thirteen (13) copies of the above-referenced Application. Also enclosed in a diskette with electronic copies of the Joint Application in MSWord and PDF formats.

Please date stamp the extra copy of this filing and return it in the self-addressed, postage paid envelope provided. Should you have any questions regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to contact Brett Ferenchak at 202-373-6697.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean L. Kiddoo

Brett P. Ferenchak

Counsel for Global Tel\*Link Corporation

Ferrenchak

cc:

**Enclosures** 

Lance J.M. Steinhart (Counsel for Global Tel\*Link Corp.)

Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

FEB **0 9** 2007

DOCKETED BY



1	BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION			
2				
3	JEFF HATCH-MILLER Chairman			
5 6	WILLIAM A. MUNDELL Commissioner			
7 8	MIKE GLEASON Commissioner			
9 10	KRISTIN K. MAYES Commissioner			
11 12	BARRY WONG Commissioner			
13 14 15 16 17 18	In the Matter of the Application of Global Tel*Link Corporation for Authorization to Encumber and/or Mortgage its Assets  )			
20	APPLICATION OF GLOBAL TEL*LINK CORPORATION			
21	Global Tel*Link Corporation ("GTL" or "Applicant"), through its undersigned counsel and			
22	pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-285 and the rules of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission"),			
23	hereby request such Commission approval as may be necessary for GTL to encumber and/or			
24	mortgage its assets in connection with certain debt issuance financing arrangements. Specifically,			
25	GTL will act as a borrower on certain secured credit facilities and term loan agreements in the			
26	aggregate amount of up to \$250 million (the "Transactions"). GTL, therefore, requests approval to			
grant a security interest in substantially all of its assets in support of the Transactions.				
	On February 7, 2007 GTL filed an application to cancel the coin operated pay telephone certificate issued in Docket No. T-03182A-96-0293 to TCG Payphones, Inc. ("TCG"), a subsidiary of GTL, on the basis that all of the			

Company's payphone services in Arizona are provided by GTL and there are no services provided under the TCG certificate. See T-03182A-07-0086. All of GTL's subsidiaries, including TCG, will be guarantors and pledge their assets as part of the Transactions. Given that TCG does not have any operations in Arizona subject to its certificate,

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Applicant emphasizes that the Transactions and pledge for which approval is sought are all financial in nature and that none of those Transactions will affect the technical or managerial qualifications of GTL or directly affect GTL's services to customers in Arizona. Furthermore, the Transactions will not involve the issuance of stock and the existing GTL owners will continue to hold their existing ownership interests. As financial transactions, the Transactions will not affect the day-to-day operations of GTL or change any of the rates, terms or conditions under which GTL provides service.

The public interest will be best served by the expeditious approval of this Application. The additional financing which GTL will receive as a result of the Transactions will reinforce the financial strength of GTL, allow GTL to retire its previous borrowing, allow GTL to obtain financing on favorable terms and allow GTL to pursue significant expansion of its business operations. Important business considerations require that the Transactions described herein be completed as soon as possible. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commission approve this Application on an expedited emergency basis.

In support of this Application, Applicant further states as follows:

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE APPLICANT**

GTL is a Delaware corporation with offices located at 2609 Cameron Street, Mobile, AL 36608. GTL is authorized to provide interstate and international services pursuant to authority granted by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and holds authority to provide competitive telecommunications services throughout most of the continental United States. In particular, GTL specializes in, and a substantial portion of its business consists of, the provision of payphone and inmate only services. In Arizona, GTL is authorized to provide pay telephone

GTL does not believe that TCG's encumbrance requires Commission approval. However, to the extent that TCG's certificate has not been cancelled as of the time that the Commission issues its decision, and to the extent that the

1	services pursuant to a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity issued in Decision No. 59429			
2	on December 20, 1995. Further information regarding GTL and the services it provides have			
3	previously been submitted to the Commission, are therefore a matter of public record, and are			
4	incorporated herein by reference.			
5	GTL is a wholly owned direct subsidiary of GTEL Holdings, Inc. ("Holdings").			
6	Holdings is owned by (a) three Delaware limited partnerships that compromise a private equit			
7	fund managed by The Gores Group, LLC ("Gores Group"), a preeminent private investment firm			
8	which focuses its investments on opportunities in the technology and telecommunications sectors			
9	and (b) a group of private equity funds managed by Goldman Sachs.			
10	CONTACT INFORMATION			
11	Correspondence concerning this Application may be directed to:			
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Jean L. Kiddoo Brett P. Ferenchak Bingham McCutchen LLP 3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20007-5116 (202) 424-7500 (Tel) (202) 424-7645 (Fax) jean.kiddoo@bingham.com brett.ferenchak@bingham.com			
21	and:			
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	Lance J.M. Steinhart Lance J.M. Steinhart, PC 1720 Windward Concourse, Suite 250 Alpharetta, Georgia 30005 (770) 232-9200 (Tel) (770) 232-9208 (Fax) Isteinhart@telecomcounsel.com			
29	DESCRIPTION OF THE TRANSACTIONS			

Commission believes that approval of the pledge is technically required, GTL respectfully asks that the Commission's order approving the Transactions include approval for TCG's encumbrance as well as that of GTL.

Applicant seeks approval to participate in a series of debt financing Transactions. Specifically, Applicant seeks approval grant a security interest in its assets for certain new senior secured long term debt arrangements in the aggregate amount of up to \$250 million. Applicant will also be the borrower for the proposed financing arrangements, which are expected to include both revolving long-term credit arrangement and term loan components.

The proposed indebtedness will replace Applicant's outstanding credit facilities and thereby allow Applicant to obtain long term credit on favorable terms. In addition, Applicant expects that the proposed issuance will (a) substantially increase the ability of Applicant to substantially expand its operations in Arizona, (b) allow a one time distribution by the Applicant to Holdings, the proceeds of which are applied by Holdings (i) to pay a deferred redemption amount on Holdings preferred stock, (ii) to pay a dividend on Holdings common stock, and (iii) to contribute to the Applicant's equity incentive bonus plan, which shall be paid by the Applicant to the eligible employees participating in the plan through normal payroll procedures, (c) fund potential acquisitions,<sup>2</sup> and (d) provide Applicant with the financial resources necessary to compete effectively with other service providers in Arizona.

The proposed financing has not been completed. However, for urgent business reasons, Applicant anticipates the proposed Transactions will need to be completed on a highly expedited basis. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Commission grant such approval as may be available to allow the Transactions to proceed on an expedited basis.

#### **PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS**

Applicant respectfully submits that the Transactions described in this Application will serve the public interest. In particular, Applicant submits that: (1) the Transactions increase competition in the Arizona telecommunications market by reinforcing Applicant's status as a viable competitor

and ensuring that Applicant can continue to provide service on an uninterrupted basis; (2) the contemplated Transactions will allow Applicant to significantly expand its operations, including in Arizona, and (3) the proposed Transactions for which approval is sought are solely financial arrangements that will not affect the day-to-day operations of Applicant and will be entirely transparent to its customers.

The Transactions are expected to support competition in Arizona. In particular, the financing Transactions described above will provide GTL with substantial additional capital that will allow the company to continue to compete effectively as a leading provider of payphone and inmate-only payphone services. The additional financing provided by the financing Transactions will also allow GTL to continue to execute the company's business plan and offer alternative high-quality, competitively priced services to a substantial number of potential customers in its operating areas.

At the same time, the financing Transactions will be entirely transparent to existing GTL customers. The proposed Transactions do not create any new owners of GTL and will not affect the day-to-day management of GTL or the services that GTL provides. Because the Transactions are financial in nature and will not affect the rates, terms and conditions under which GTL operates, the financing Transactions will be entirely transparent to customers of GTL in terms of the services those customers receive.

#### **RELIEF REQUESTED**

WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commission Authorize the pledge, mortgage, lien, and/or encumbrance of the assets of GTL in connection with the financing arrangements described herein.

Applicant will make any necessary filings for those potential acquisitions.

## **CONCLUSION** 1 For the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that the public interest, 2 convenience, and necessity would be furthered by a grant of this Application on an expedited, 3 4 emergency basis. Respectfully submitted, 5 Brett P. Ferenchak Bingham McCutchen LLP 3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20007-5116 (202) 424-7500 (Tel) (202) 424-7645 (Fax) iean.kiddoo@bingham.com brett.ferenchak@bingham.com Lance J.M. Steinhart Lance J.M. Steinhart, PC 1720 Windward Concourse, Suite 250 Alpharetta, Georgia 30005 (770) 232-9200 (Tel) (770) 232-9208 (Fax) lsteinhart@telecomcounsel.com COUNSEL FOR APPLICANT Dated: February 8, 2007 6 7 Original and 10 copies of the foregoing deposited with FedEx for 8 9 overnight delivery this 8th day of February, 2007, with: 10 The Arizona Corporation Commission 11 Utilities Division - Docket Control 12 13 1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007 14

1	Copy of the foregoing with FedEx for		
2	overnight delivery this 8th day of		
2 3	February, 2007, to:		
4	Christopher Kempley, Chief Counsel		
5	Legal Department		
6	Arizona Corporation Commission		
7	1200 W. Washington Street		
8	Phoenix, Arizona 85007		
9	Ernest Johnson, Director		
10	Utilities Division		
11	1200 W. Washington Street		
12	Phoenix, Arizona 85007		
13	Lyn Farmer, Chief Administrative Law Judge		
14	Hearing Division		
15	1200 W. Washington Street		
16	Phoenix, Arizona 85007		
17			

<u>Verification</u>						
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STATE OF ALABAMA §
CITY OF MOBILE §

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, David Silverman, state that I am Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Global Tel\*Link Corporation; that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of Global Tel\*Link Corporation; that the foregoing filing was prepared under my direction and supervision; and that the contents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

David Silverman

Senior Vice President and General Counsel

Global Tel\*Link Corporation

Sworn and subscribed before me this 17 day of January, 2007.

Notary Public

My commission expires

BEVERLY F. SHUMOCK

Notary Public Alabama

State At Large

My Commission Expires October 25, 2009

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-Global Tel\*Link Corporation Febuary 8<sup>th</sup> 2007

TO REVIEW SEE DOCKET SUPERVISOR

DOCKET # T-02871A-07-0094